SOUTH VIET NAM In Struggle

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Address: HT 1217 B-SVN
c/o DAZIMINA HANOI
19, Hai Ba Trung, Hanoi, DRVN
and all RSVN Embassies, Information Bureaux in foreign countries

CENTRAL ORGAN OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION

editorial

What other card has Mr Nixon up his sleeves

"VIETNAMIZATION" is being foiled. That is an undeniable truth. That is the conclusion not only of the victorious Vietnamese people and the world antiwar opinion but also of US opinion, including political personalities.

People complain that Mr Nixon is turning a blind eye to that fact. Let us forgive him, because his situation compels him to talk big. He cannot openly admit his defeat, or in other words he cannot recognize a harsh fact established by his enemy.

In order to get into the White House, Nixon promised to the US electors to end the war. Till now he has been clamouring that he is carrying out his promise. Is he? One must understand him and his nature well: he is a US president who is the true representative of the ruling monopoly capitalist gang, a man renowned as a "hawk" since he was not yet in US highest office. These two elements are clearly perceptible in the US administration's policy regarding Viet Nam: resort to "decisive military actions to put an end to the war." Everybody remembers that after ensconcing himself in the White House, Mr Nixon put forth his "Vietnamization." "Vietnamization," he claims, aims at impelling negotiations. Lately, he still laid emphasis on the "strong hand" policy in his speech delivered on June 29, while dealing with the resumption of the Paris Conference. Thus, Mr Nixon wants to stop the war along a quite imperialist line which bears his stamp, i.e. by forcing the adversary to surrender, to renounce his aspiration for independence and freedom and to accept US neo-colonialist rule.

FROM the above-mentioned analysis emerges a clear picture of all Nixon's activity over the past three and a half years. He has been forced to withdraw US troops, but piecemeal and under a protracted plan, while strengthening and beefing up the Saigon army and revamping the Nguyen Van Thieu quisling administration. He has stepped up the US aggression and US genocide in South Viet Nam, expanded the fighting to Cambodia and pushed up the special war in Laos. At present, while the war in South Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos is brought to unprecedented violence, Nixon has renewed the war of destruction by air and naval forces against the DRVN with a far greater ferocity than in Johnson's time. He has escalated the war to extremely dangerous rungs in both zones of Viet Nam. A big air and naval force has been mobilized: more than 200 B-52 strategic aircraft, 1,300 fighters of all kinds, over 60 warships, and 6 aircraft-carriers. The US fighting force of the Seventh Fleet in Thailand has also been reinforced. The bombings and strafings surpass Johnson's in intensity. The cruelty of the present Nixon's war was unknown even in the second world war: carpet bombings, systematical strafings of dykes and hydraulic works, metereological war, use of fire bombs, phosphorous bombs, smart bombs, fragmentation bombs and fifteen-thousand pounders, poisonous gas and noxious chemicals... to wipe out life and environment. Over the past three years, Mr Nixon has thus tried to put an end to the war in his own way. He intends to deploy all the strength of imperialist USA, rich in money and arms, to force the adversary to lay down his arms and bow to his neo-colonialist domination.

If everything had met Mr Nixon's expectations, he would have perhaps halted the US aggression. But he has been carrying out the policy of "ending the war by means of military actions" in disregard of his adversary's reaction and of the situation. We are in 1972. The Vietnamese people, the US people, the world peoples, the forces opposing Mr Nixon's policy of force are many times stronger than before. They are in a position to frustrate his warlike and aggressive line and as a matter of fact they have dealt him shattering blows over the past three years.

The reality of the Indochinese battlefields has fully demonstrated that Mr Nixon's policy of "ending the war with decisive military actions" is only one which drags out, intensifies and expands it. It is an infamous fraud of imperialism, a vicious circle and a last-ditch action. It is like to try to extinguish a fire by pouring oil on it. Mr Nixon's ambition has dulled his head. He is rushing headlong onto the path of suicide.

HIS present extreme dangerous escalation is an unmistakable sign that "Vietnamization" is going bankrupt. The formula: Saigon infantry + US (fire and logistical) support has been unsuccessfully experimented on the Indochinese battlefields. Its first acid test took place on the Highway 9 — Khe Sanh front (Viet Nam) and in South Laos, during Operation Lam Son 719. The US-Saigon humiliating disaster in the "Total Victory 71" campaign in Snuol (North-East Cambodia) is an additional proof of the unsoundness of that strategy. Early this year, when during the wave of offensives and uprisings the South Viet Nam PLAF and people broke through the US-Saigon defence line in Quang Tri, Dong Ha, Kontum, An Loc, and wholly liberated Quang Tri, it again suffered a dramatic setback. Both the Saigon army and US support has been intensified to a degree exceeding the scope of "Vietnamization." At present, the activity of the US air and naval forces is still the main one on the South Viet Nam battlefield as well as in other countries of the Indochinese peninsula. B.52 aircraft have to fly saturation bombing to cover the Saigon troops from impetuous attaeks of the PLAF.

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Seisse Inquart — Richard Nixon

synonyms with genocide

IN concert with the eruption of public wrath in Viet Nam, progressive opinion in the world, in the past days, has raised an outcry against the devilish design of Nixon to unleash on the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam the combined fury of a "geophysical war" and premeditated destruction of dyke systems and other hydraulic works here.

In 1945, German fascism seeing that there was no way out of its doom, started to destroy whatever it could, even dykes in low-lying regions in Holland.

The Nuremberg International Military Tribunal, on the strength of the Hague Convention of 1908, categorized this wanton act as a war crime, and Seisse Inquart, the Nazi who organized the destruction of Holland's dykes, was sent to the gallows.

In their current war of aggression in Viet Nam, the US imperialists have dumped on this land and the other parts of Indochina close to 14 million tons of explosive. US armed forces, in a deliberate genocide, have resorted to the most brutal methods to bring the Vietnamese to their knees.

The war of destruction conducted by US air and naval forces in South Viet Nam has for many years been coupled with a war of ecocide waged with toxic chemical sprays, destruction of upstream forests and vegetation, and attacks on the civilian population in times of floods and other natural calamities. No wonder the Stockholm environment conference and such men of conscience and goodwill as Swedish Premier Olof Palme have pointed an accusing finger at the US imperialists, branding them the chief wrecker of natural environment with their genocide in Viet Nam and Indochina.

US President Richard Nixon, faced with the collapse of "Vietnamization" has ordered the resumption of the bombing of North Viet Nam. This has been done with the mining and blockading of the ports, indiscriminate raids on great population centres, hospitals, schools, churches, pagodas and economic establishments. More seriously still, US aircraft and warships have been striking at dykes and irrigation works of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

Over 70 attacks have been mounted by US aircraft and warships in the past three months on vital dykes along the Hong Ha (Red), Thai Binh, Day, La and Ma rivers respectively in Hanoi and the provinces of Hai Hung, Thai Binh, Nam Ha, Ninh Binh, Thanh Hoa, Nghé An and Ha Tinh. Sea dykes have not spared either. To achieve the greatest effect, bombs of every description including demolition and dart bombs, and of all sizes, even the biggest kind in use, have been employed. Over 30 portions of these dykes have been heavily damaged, and dozens of sluices and dams have been destroyed. Even more savagely, US air pirates have deployed steel-pellet and other anti-personnel bombs against people engaged in the repairing of damaged dykes or in other hydraulic projects, in Dong Son, Nam Ngan, Nam Ha, etc.

Systematic destruction of North Viet Nam's dykes and hydraulic works is a premeditated act of the Nixon administration. This was revealed by Nixon himself when he said at his April 30 press conference in Texas that "dykes are a strategic target and indirectly, a military target."

What's more, the press in the United States and France has brought to light various plans of the Pentagon for a "geophysical warfare." The French magazine *Nouvel Observateur* on July 7 referred to what is known as "Project Blue Nile" and said this was about a highly secret weapon tested by the US military about 5 years ago and which can be even deadlier than atomic bombs.

According to the same paper, "the 'advantage' of this new type of war are manifold: fabulous amount of energy can be released at very little cost (a hurricane is equal to hundreds of H bombs), a cheap material can advantageously replace the cumbrous missiles and anti-missiles..." and "it has been proved by research that in certain conditions of the accumulation and movement of clouds, one can provoke on a given region the same quantity of rain for a very short period of time — a few days or a few weeks — as it would rain for a whole year in normal conditions. One can thus destroy the crops, bring about floods, and undermine the morale of the population."

Geographically four-fifths of the territory of Viet Nam are covered by mountains and hills, which accounts for a very strong sloping of the land. The climate is tropical, with two clear-cut seasons — the dry monsoon and the wet monsoon. Therefore, the existence of a comprehensive system of dykes is very vital to the hundreds of thousands of hectares of cultivated land and the millions of human lives.

That is why the American military circles are seeking to put to use the potentials of a "climatological warfare," which though inexpensive, can be very destructive to a tropical agricultural country.

North Viet Nam, as remarked by French geographer Yves Lacoste in *Le Monde* on June 7, has a total of over 4,000 kilometres of dyke which need constant strengthening to protect the crops and the lives of some 15 million people living in the plains, with the density of about 800 per square kilometre.

The French scientist said that if bombardments are conducted simultaneously on a series of places in the dyke system (because it is not necessary to destroy all the dykes to cause the inundation of the plains) in the period of spates the catastrophe will very likely cause more deaths than many atomic bombs.

Now, in face of mounting protest at home and abroad, Nixon is trying to plead not guilty. The White House, the Pentagon and the State Department alike have claimed that it is not the policy of the US Government to bomb dykes. And, flying in the face of evidence given by foreign diplomats, journalists, news photographers and TV reporters who have seen with their own eyes the damage caused by US aircraft to dykes here, the US State Department has brazenly imputed it to "inadequate repairs," and certain officials have even said that in view of the heavy bombing campaign against North Viet Nam, accidental bombings of the dykes could not be ruled out. This, of course, is unbelievable, and as the *New York Times* pointed out on July 5, what is striking is the cynicism with which American officials deny the attacks on hospitals and dykes as witnessed and reported by the *AFP* correspondent in Hanoi. The paper said that in 1965, when General Curtis Lemay threatened to bomb North Viet Nam back to the Stone Age, many Americans poohpoohed the threat as silly and not worth attention; but now, it is being confirmed by facts.

And the paper wondered how many Americans could shut their eyes to the systematic, frantic devastation inflicted by their government on the economy and life of a small country.

Joining their Northern countrymen, the people of South Viet Nam strongly condemn the US for the systematic attacks on the dykes and other hydraulic work of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, which constitute an utterly savage genocide on the part of the Nixon administration.

KHANH KIM

Fissures caused to Kim Bang dyke (Nam Ha) by US demolition bombs

What other card has Mr Nixon...

(Continued from page 1)

The fire of US aviation and navy remains US-Saigon main shield. Today the Saigon army is playing second fiddle to the US. Its arms cannot go into action without US help. The latter have actually to perform more than their support role. They are the "strategic forces" of this aggressive war waged to maintain US neo-colonialism. It is Nixon's cruel brand of war. It is the brainchild of the line of resorting to "decisive military actions to end the war."

But it is obvious that in the world's history of war there has not been any case of victory decided by air and naval forces. Will Mr Nixon's be an exception or will it initiate a new war philosophy? There is no fact to back it, although Mr Nixon has deployed various kinds of bombs and shells unknown in the 2nd world war, and even metereological, chemical, genocidal and extermination warfare.

MR NIXON'S failure is only too apparent. It will not be long before he has to recognize it. However he continues to make his war more atrocious and commit more aircraft and warships to Viet Nam and Indochina. He is still nursing the illusion of using "decisive military actions to end the war," isn't he? He doesn't change a whit his nature as a stubborn, bellicose and cruel hawk. As it has been pointed out by the world press, in reality Mr Nixon is aware of the unsuccess of his "Vietnamization," but he has to pursue his actions to prove that he is always "strong," because he cannot resign himself to "failure" and tolerate being "humiliated." Is it only for those reasons?

It is possible, as the Japanese paper Asahi *wrote on July 3, 1972, that one always talks soft when strong and talks big when weak. It remains to be seen whether at this juncture President Nixon's firm words reflect faithfully his awareness that the USA really knows its weakness and whether they are only a bargaining trick of the US.*

It is probable that they do. And Mr Nixon's firm words and actions are only a bargaining trick. He wants to impose his terms on his adversary. But he will not succeed. The more he pretends to be strong, the more he shows his weakness and the weaker he is. The more he resorts to expedients and brutal war means, the more numerous are his setbacks and the more he proves that he is at the end of his tether. The war waged by Mr Nixon with air and naval forces, as a result of the defeat of the "Vietnamized" war, is only a passive and defensive war aiming at staving off the former's rapid collapse. It is only an indication of US losing and weak posture and will bring the US president nearer to the brink of the abyss.

MR NIXON'S ambition is to win the war together with another term in the US presidency. But these are two quite different things. What has been rocking Mr Nixon's seat? The war in Viet Nam and Indochina. The US electors are angry because Mr Nixon has not lived up to his promise to end the war or because he has stepped it up. The war in Viet Nam and Indochina is a chain binding his feet.

Mr Nixon and his able adviser, Mr Kissinger, have toured East and West trying to sell a spurious peace and get more votes. But it is clear that the ballots obtained have not set his mind at peace. The race to the White House is switching into high gear. If he does not get rid of the chain, it will be hard for him to catch up with his competitor?

What other trump card has Mr Nixon up his sleeves? For him, time is running out.

SOUTH VIET NAM

Nixon's Stepped-up Extermination War Cannot Impede Viet Nam People's March Forward

UNDER the world peoples' fire triggered by its dangerous escalation in Viet Nam, the Nixon administration is once again resorting to its "search for peace" while actually bringing its war of extermination in both zones of Viet Nam to an unprecedented level.

In South Viet Nam, an all-out war has been waged against civilians, destroying environment, murdering people en masse. Mines have been dropped on ricefields and rivers to interdict communication and force the people out of their homes and lands.

Since June 28, 1972, the US has mustered hundreds of B-52s and dozens of warships from the Seventh Fleet to bomb and shell many newly-liberated areas, from Quang Tri, Thua Thien, Dakto, Tan Canh to Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, Phu Yen and even areas around Saigon and Hue. Villages and towns have been ravaged, thousands of civilians killed. Most seriously, the US-Saigon commands have made use of phosphorous, napalm and toxic chemical bombs and shells against Quang Tri town, Dong Ha and the districts of Cam Lo, Gio Linh, Hai Lang, Trieu Phong, Mang Giang, Pleiku, Trang Bang etc... poisoning, at times lethally, thousands of people. Evidence of this can be found in an *AFP* dispatch on June 21, 1972 : In 80 days from March 30 to June 20, 1972, US planes dropped on South Viet Nam 218,700 tons of bombs, 146,700 tons of which by B-52s."

In North Viet Nam, the US aero-naval war of destruction has been resumed. Populated areas including Hanoi, Haiphong, such industrial centres as Hongay, Nam Dinh, Viet Tri, and a whole series of economic, health and educational establishments have come under bombings. Most savage has been the mining and blockade of DRVN ports. Since mid-April, US planes and warships have been hitting without let-up at most important dyke sections along the main rivers, and many hydraulic works and sea dykes in Thai Binh, Nam Ha, Ninh Binh provinces, with a view to causing floods and incommensurable losses in human life and property getting at the very source of life of the North Vietnamese.

This is war crime of the darkest dye and fiendishness. Nixon's genocide, biocide and ecocide in both zones of Viet Nam are more heinous than Hitler's crimes, and the US aggressors are the greatest war criminals that must be condemned by the whole mankind.

But Nixon and his clique should entertain no hope of saving their "Vietnamization" from total collapse and of forcing the Vietnamese people to lay down their arms and surrender, and the South Vietnamese to accept a neo-colonialist regime. Neither tanks, planes, nor any other up-to-date weapons of mass murder will be able to help the US imperialists materialize their dream.

The Vietnamese people, in both zones, being in a position of strength and winning position, will have enough resolve and means to keep up their effort against the US aggressors until final victory.

Strong with their experience gained in the years of resistance to the US air war of destruction, our Northern fellow countrymen are fully determined to surmount all difficulties to fulfil their sacred duty as the great rear-base towards the heroic great front-line.

No criminal act of war of the bellicose Nixon clique will be able to save "Vietnamization" from its lamentable failure, nor will they be able to shake the iron will of the Vietnamese people to fight for independence, freedom, and the liberation of South Viet Nam.

Ly Tu Trong junior high school (Hai Phong) completely demolished by US bombs.

US weapons retrieved and turned in to revolutionary power by youth in newly liberated areas

People's Revolutionary Committee Founded in Quang Tri

THE Quang Tri National Front for Liberation Committee announced in a communique on July 5, 1972 foundation of the People's Revolutionary Committee of the province with the following composition :

Chairman : Le San, a veteran revolutionary who has been active as a patriot since 1930 and has been leading the province people in the former anti-French and present anti-US resistances.

Vice-Chairmen : Nguyen Sanh, former Vice-President of the Resistance and Administrative Committee of Gio Linh district, and Mme Tran Thi Hong, leader of the Liberation Women's Association in Quang Tri, and

11 other members including two members of the province NFL, a delegate of PLAF and many patriotic intellectuals and prominent personalities.

The Quang Tri NFL and People's Revolutionary Committees have issued an appeal to the population. After praising the achievements of the Quang Tri army and people in the war against US aggression and for national salvation in the past scores of years, it said : " In face of the new situation and tasks, to baffle all the enemy counter-attacks, defend the homeland and effectively contribute to the liberation of South Viet Nam, defence of the North and peaceful reunification of the country, the NFL and People's Revolutionary Committees in Quang Tri eagerly call on people from all walks of life, youth, women, trade union, peasants, young pioneers, mothers and old folk organizations, religious bodies and nationalities, industrialists and traders, prominent personalities and intellectuals, all civil servants and fighters in the province :

1. To unite and join efforts in defending the revolutionary power, fully implement the policies of revolutionary power in the liberated zone, defend and build the homeland and shape a new life.

2. To strictly carry out the slogan : Every citizen is a fighter, every house, hamlet and village is a fortress. Everybody must courageously fight the enemy, determinedly wipe them out whenever they come, well organize civil defence, well serve combat, maintain law and order, duly punish the air and sea marauders, the traitors and spies who are still stubbornly and stealthily carrying on subversive activities. To do their utmost to supply the frontline and the battlefields to help defeat the enemy. To actively build the armed and political forces in cities, countryside and mountain regions.

3. To actively rehabilitate and develop production with a sense of urgency to get enough food for the resistance, well prepare the autumn rice crop, put large areas under vegetable and subsidiary crops, restore fishing, forestry, handicrafts, trade and transport and communication.

4. To quickly restore life to normal, help one another rebuild houses, dig trenches, organize prevention hygiene, look after the children, take care of the old-agers, sick and disabled armymen, assist needy families, prevail on their husbands, sons and brothers forcibly drafted in the enemy army to return to their dear ones and take part in reconstruction, well manage absentees' property.

5. Do away with the vestiges of the old regime's slavish, depraved and reactionary culture, eliminate illiteracy and other US-Thieu social evils, restore our people's wholesome and simple way of life and morality.

On this occasion, the NFL and People's Revolutionary Committee in Quang Tri earnestly call on officers and men, employees and functionaries of the Saigon administration who have gone astray or been forced into the enemy service, to seek all possible means to escape or turn their guns on the US-Thieu clique, to return to their native land and join their co-villagers in rebuilding their homeland and contribute to the salvation of their homes and country.

In conclusion, the appeal voiced the Quang Tri army and people's resolve to defend and build their province, valiantly keep up combat and production, thus joining the entire South Vietnamese people in the fighting till the US quit and the quislings topple.

urban political agitation, A WEIGHTY PUNCH AGAINST AGGRESSORS AND TRAITORS

IMMEDIATELY after his return for a second term as the Saigon regime's president and especially since early this year, with the aid and abetting of his American bosses, Nguyen Van Thieu has not stopped at any vicious and brutal trick to get full powers, consolidate his personal position and carry on US criminal "Vietnamization."

Ultra-reactionary economic measures have been enforced in quick succession. Terror campaigns with the arrest of tens of thousands of innocent people under the label of Operation "For the People", with round-ups for troop drafting and collection of blood and with the manhandling or secret liquidation of hundreds of school pupils, students, intellectuals and representatives of mass organizations, charity and religious bodies and opposition groups have become a routine. Dozens of campuses and pupils' and students' seats in Saigon and Hue, many orphanages in Long Thanh (Bien Hoa) and Binh Dinh have been put under constant siege, dissolved, searched, ransacked or raided with guns and toxic gases. Seizures, fines and shut-downs of progressive and opposition newspapers as well as jailing or manhandling of correspondents and publishers have been daily occurrences.

Particularly following his heavy setbacks at the hands of the South Vietnamese liberation armed forces and people since early April, Thieu has been behaving like a cornered beast. After proclaiming the state of emergency, he promulgated "9 security measures" and asked Saigon Congress for full powers in the fields of security, national defence and finance in an attempt to legalize the crackdown on the urban people's movements for better living conditions and democratic freedoms and rake up the people's resources for Vietnamization now facing failure.

CONFRONTED with an enemy who is in a losing and isolated position but is extremely brutal and wicked, in the first half of this year, people in South Viet Nam cities and towns, with courage, staunchness, ingenuity and creativeness, have successfully resisted waves of terror and repression of the US-Thieu clique, unceasingly preserved, strengthened and enlarged their ranks, and given more sting to their movement.

For one Huynh Tan Mam, one Ngo Ba Thanh or one Tran Thi Lan taken into custody there have been hundreds and thousands of others to carry on their unfinished work. In diversified forms, the struggle has gained momentum in all fields against US "Vietnamization" and Thieu's fascist dictatorial regime, and for the country's independence and freedom of belief, university autonomy and protection of women's dignity...

In spite of bans on strikes, demonstrations, meetings and sit-ins, and of the curfew, court-martial orders and enforcement of the state of emergency, the Saigon administration has so far failed to prevent workers from holding congresses, staging slow-down strikes or work stoppages, issuing protests against its reactionary economic measures which have been giving them and their families hard times, against the collusion between employers and Saigon authorities in the ruthless exploitation and oppression of workers, and for higher wages and lower taxes and living cost. The Saigon regime has also been unable to prohibit protest demonstrations, hunger strikes, bonfires, night vigils, and sit-ins by schoolpupils and students in Saigon, Hue, Da Lat, Van Hanh and Can Tho. Thieu's orders for more men to be drafted and for troop upgrading, far from enabling him to get more manpower to salvage the collapsing Vietnamization, has instead fanned up the anger long smouldering among Saigon army invalids, families of Saigon armymen and especially the school population. In Saigon and in the capitals of Quang Ngai, Bien Hoa, Can Tho, Ben Tre, My Tho and other provinces, thousands of people marched in file over a 1,000-yard stretch on Thieu's recruiting centres to petition against military draft deferment and exemption. Saigon youths and students organized themselves to keep one another abreast of the situation and resist induction. Thieu's efforts to gag the press and to force it to carry reports and articles supporting his views have only let to a wider press coverage of the popular movement in the cities and towns against Vietnamization and the establishment, and for peace, independence and formation of a tripartite government of national concord.

Diamond cuts diamond. The enemy has resorted to fraud and deception along with dollars, guns and toxic gas to stamp out the mass protest. The people have reacted strongly with the very measures and forms devised by the enemy and at the same time succeeded in preserving and developing their own forces. The undaunted attitude adopted by the 10-student group before the Saigon military tribunal on March 23 together with their trenchant indictment of the enemy, with their revolutionary songs and the compelling conviction of their slogan "Liberty or Death," has dealt a stinging slap in the face of the fascist dictatorial clique and a stunning blow at the jungle law of the traitors. The inhabitants of Hoai An district, Binh Dinh province, have turned the funeral of Miss Huynh Thi Hien, a Buddhist believer arbitrarily arrested and later tortured to death by the US-Thieu clique, into a week-long (March 11-16) show of the strength of justice and the anger of the local population, and the action not only won the support of 90 per cent of the Saigon armymen and policemen stationed in the area and of members and high-ranking officials of the Saigon administration, but also forced the Binh Dinh province chief to make an on-spot apology to the local people and the bereaved family.

With their mine of experience, imagination and ability to turn to account the weak points of the enemy, in the first 6 months of 1972, various mass organizations and people from all walks of life in South Viet Nam cities and towns kept a keen eye on the criminal manoeuvres and activities of the US-Thieu clique to make timely decisions as to the forms, measures and slogans of struggle suitable to the characteristics and nature of their respective organizations and thereby contributed, together with the entire South Vietnamese armed forces and people, to worsening the US-Thieu passiveness, isolation and instability.

By persisting in their battle against Thieu's reactionary economic policies (a component part of US Vietnamization), workers, private employees, small traders, owners of small enterprises, vendors at various markets, street hawkers, Saigon army invalids and families of Saigon armymen in Saigon, Hue, Bien Hoa, Can Tho and other places have held series of meetings, signed petitions, issued statements, staged slow-down strikes, work stoppages, market closures and demonstrations, or marched on Saigon Parliament and Ministry of Economy to demand abolition of exorbitant taxes, reduction of the cost of living, adequate food supplies, housing, etc. More remarkable still, workers employed by the Esso Oil Company, Air Viet Nam, Saigon newport, the RMK-BRJ construction firm and hotels catering for the Americans have insisted that the employers refrain from humiliating women workers or dismissing Vietnamese workers en masse to replace them with cheaper foreign labour force, and that compensation be paid to the victims of the lay-off.

Pupils and students have used various methods of action against campus militarization, and interference in the activity of student organizations at universities and colleges, and for democratic liberties, freedom of study and preservation of the nation's traditional culture. With school strikes and boycotts of examinations or of practical training involving most of the faculties in Saigon, in protest against campus militarization, with sit-ins in front of Saigon Parliament, hunger-strikes in prisons against terror and reprisals against pupils and students opposing Thieu's election fraud, seathing defence charges before the Saigon military tribunal, pupils and students in Saigon and other South Viet Nam cities have added to the US-Thieu predicaments.

Press circles in Saigon, challenging Thieu's big stick policy, have directed their pens against the enemy N° one of the nation, baring the wicked and criminal nature of "Vietnamization." Progressive papers in Saigon have truthfully reflected the fondest aspirations of the vast majority of people living in areas still under US-Saigon control, namely, peace and independence, US withdrawal, Thieu's resignation, and formation in South Viet Nam of a representative tripartite government of national concord to be entrusted with the responsibility to settle Viet Nam's internal affairs free from foreign interference.

IN the past 6 months, although the methods and slogans of struggle varied from one organization and group to another, yet in the process of their fight they have undertaken joint actions and supported mutually in the pursuit of the common goal of the nation which is to drive out the US aggressors and overthrow the clique of reactionary, bellicose and obstinate Vietnamese traitors headed by Nguyen Van Thieu, win independence and peace for the country, and, first and foremost, frustrate US "Vietnamization" and oppose Nguyen Van Thieu's fascist dictatorial regime. The Association for the Protection of Schoolpupils and Students came into existence in the wake of brutal US-Thieu crackdown on the campus movement. As press circles in Saigon decide to suspend publication for 3 days in protest against the 200-percent increase in the price of newsprint, many trade unions and student representatives immediately declared support for the action. Newsmen in large numbers have covered it with sympathy. Meanwhile pupils and students have launched "Support the Workers" drives. Thanks to their united action and mutual support, the movement has been kept up with new activities suitable to the prevailing situation, in spite of stepped-up US-Thieu crackdown. 33 progressive and pacifist organizations, instead of only 12 at the beginning, have by now associated themselves and joined action with it. Enlisting at first only organized labour, it now embraces members of the intelligentsia and even opponents of Nguyen Van Thieu and Saigon congressmen who support, or join in the battle.

Having gone through hard and crucial trials, the political protest in South Viet Nam cities has developed steadily into one of the major threats to the survival of the anti-popular and anti-national Saigon regime.

By promoting its initiative and its offensive posture which has been made the most of in the first half of this year, it will further strengthen into a weighty punch, thereby playing a positive part in the common effort of the PLAF and the entire people to completely defeat the US aggressors and the Nguyen Van Thieu clique, right in their last sanctuary.

AI THI

Street demonstration against terror, repression and military draft

in the cities

o Electrical workers in Da Nang recently stopped work to press their employers to reinstate three of their representatives arbitrarily dismissed. On June 27, the Saigon Federation of Transport Workers' Union declared their support for the strikers. They asserted that should their demand remain ignored, the action would spread and be joined in by many affiliated unions of the Saigon Transport Federation.

o Seventeen trade unions in Saigon representing workers of civil aviation, the BGI brewery, the Don Dat hospital, the Michelin firm and other enterprises came out against the Thieu clique for abetting the capitalist owners' laying off and oppressing workers. In their petition dated June 22 and lodged with the prime minister and the labour minister of the quisling administration, these trade unions charged that the employers had used Thieu's court martial order to crack down on the workers, cut down their various allowances, dismiss them en masse and render them jobless. They also urged that Thieu and Co. refrain from aiding and encouraging the capitalist employers impoverish the workers for conscription purposes, reinstate the dismissed workers and find jobs for the unemployed.

o The Thieu regime recently decided that within a 3-day timelimit (July 3-5) 7,000 university students in Saigon, Can Tho, Hue and Da Lat should report and be brought to the Thu Duc Infantry School. Students in Saigon strongly protested against this measure and castigated the Thieu rule's attempt to close down colleges and universities and turn the students into cannon-fodder. The 7,000 students on the list of draftees made it clear that if they were sent to military training camps they would resist training and that if they were sent to the front, they would take antiwar actions.

o On July 4, eleven Catholic priests in Saigon, including Fathers Truong Ba Can, Chan Tin and Bui Thong Giao, signed a manifesto denouncing the Saigon administration for capitalizing on the situation to make arbitrary arrests and detentions. The protest asserted that those arrests hardly differed from kidnappings since they had been affected without regular warrants and the places and durations of the detention had never been disclosed. "The phrase 'free world'," the manifesto pointed out, "is merely a deception of US imperialism and US-installed governments."

AN IRON BOLT on route 13

THE test of strength between Detachment 5 of Division X. and about ten thousand adverse troops at Chon Thanh lasted nearly two months. It was also a test of will power and determination. The Detachment's battle-ground was constantly wrapped in flames and smoke since bombs and bullets never ceased to be rained on it. On some days enemy air action involved well over a hundred sorties, which did not prevent liberation forces to cling to their ground and halt their opponent at Chon Thanh. Thousands of para-troops men of Division 21 and armoured units coming to the rescue of the beleaguered adversary at Hon Quan were stopped short around Chon Thanh and on Route 13 by Detachment 5 and their mates of other units. It occurred that the mercenaries launched ten or more surprise attacks a day without succeeding in breaking the ring around them. Then entire companies or battalions were mowed down.

Route 13, which used to be a "road without joy" for the US Big Red One and First Cav, a "road of blood and tears" for Saigon's Infantry Division 5, has become a nightmare. It has witnessed countless feats of arms of the liberation troops of Binh Long province in the past and at present. An enthusiastic emulation drive has enlisted the participation of all officers and men on this front. The motto of all and each is: "Each defence work is a stronghold" and "Each fighter is an iron spearhead."

Enemy fuel storage depot set afire by PLAF's shelling attack

AN EXPLOSION OF HATRED

LIKE Le Thi Hong Gam of My Tho, Ho Thi Ky of Ca Mau was a typical fighter of the people's war in the Mekong delta — the most representative of the "simultaneous uprising" movement in South Viet Nam.

Expert in combat and political action as well as in persuasion work among adverse troops, Ho Thi Ky was one of the best and toughest agitators. She knew how to hold on to a place whatever might happen — something which required unbounded dedication and readiness to lay down one's own life for the revolution. She aptly carried out underground jobs in occupied cities and contested areas, which demanded not just courage but resourcefulness and quick decision.

But what was most particular about Ho Thi Ky was her ability, in decisive moments, to change her combat plan aware as she was that in doing so she exposed her youthful life.

Ca Mau, Ky's native province which treasures for ever the image of its cherished daughter, is a fertile land on the southernmost tip of Viet Nam. It has also been an embattled land. The August 1945 Revolution gave Ky's family a plot of paddy and a bit of orchard — a "gift" which made her mother's dream come true. When a child, Ky had learned so many things from her mother, all of them helping her grasp the true meaning of what occurred daily around her. Ky shared her mamma's bed. It often happened that she was suddenly awakened by deafening gun reports.

"Those are Americans' and traitors' shellings. They killed your elder brother. We are bound to suffer so long as they are here," her mother would comment.

Ky never forgot these words.

At 13 she volunteered to serve as a messenger for the "long-haired army." In demonstrations, she shuttled from one prong to another. Some said, "this little girl shows no fear of the Yanks.',

The day she became a member of the local youth organization she pledged to dedicate her life to the fight for national salvation. And she eventually lived up to her oath.

Her devotion earned the sympathy of her mates and her co-villagers. She took part in political drives and played a crucial role in a lot of them. She got into touch with everyone and rapidly increased the memberships of youth organizations in occupied areas close to adverse garrisons, With the help of the population she built one revolutionary base after another. Since she became a guerilla, she set examples of courage and was soon admitted to a commundo force operating in the very enemy sanctuaries.

Everybody, old and young, took care of Ky, supplied her with food and clothing, with the mines and grenades she needed for her job. People in Ca Mau city and its neighbourhood were her eyes and ears, informing her of what was going on while hiding her from security agents. The commando unit she led gave a lot of trouble to the enemy.

The Ca Mau Police Department was nicknamed by the townsfolk the "Murderers' Department." The sight of its cars, all windows blinded, returning from round-ups, would wring her heart. And whenever she happened to hear cries from the Department's torture room, her blood would boil. So when entrusted with liquidating agents of the "Murderers' Department" she eagerly set to the job with her comrades. Plans were devised to achieve the highest efficiency.

Ky remembered each of her superior's words: "The US-Thieu gang boast that their pacification program in this area has been devastatingly effective and that the Viet Cong have been wiped out. The explosions of your unit will give the lie to their bragging. Series of other coups will follow."

The night preceding the daring mine attack, Ky's mother arranged a basketful of fruit, packages of rice cakes and joss sticks into one of offerings to Buddha on a worship day.

The woman, who neither said nor asked anything, was aware that preparations were underway for an important action. Never did she feel such a deep affection and love for her daughter as that night.

The next morning, as Ky and her mates approached the Police Department building, police were gathering on the pavement, ready to go on a raid somewhere in the city.

The girld commando was caught unawares. Which combat plan to choose? Gazing at her basket of fruit, cakes and joss sticks she fancied that the mine was about to go off. Would she change the time set for the explosion? There was no time left to do so in safety. Or would she stick to the set plan? Impossible, too, since this would give them enough time to go away and the opportunity would be lost. The best course of action would be to act at once at the certain risk of her life. And that was what she opted for in a matter of seconds.

Ky whispered to her comrades: "We must get in going now. You'll report the result on my behalf..."

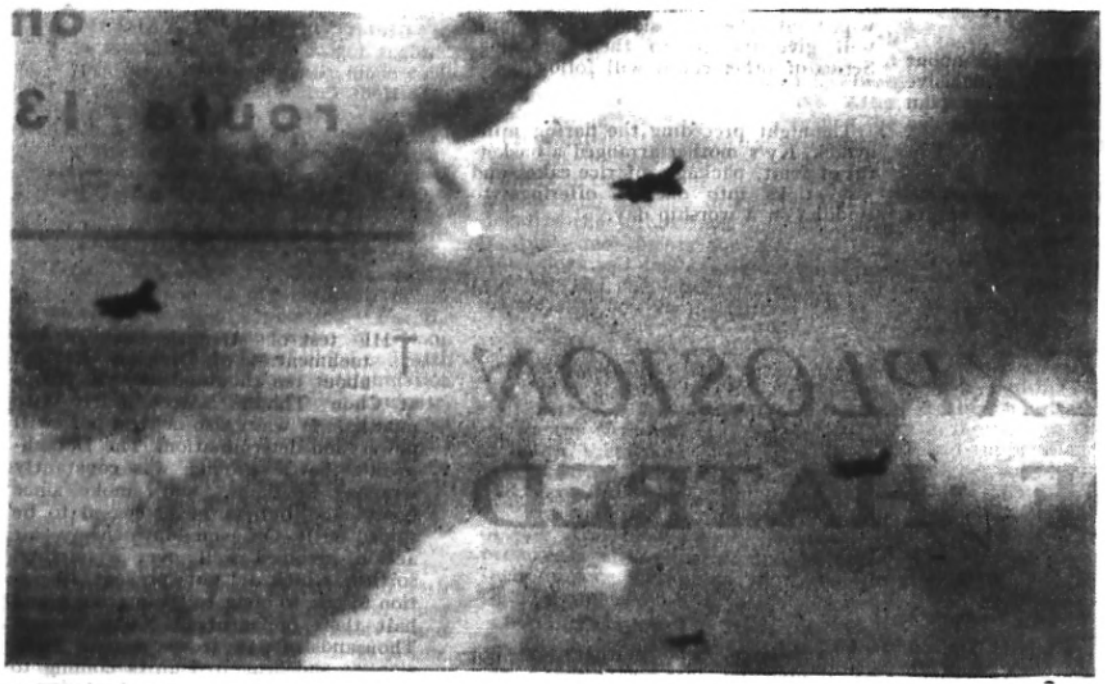
Then she came up nearer and nearer the thugs, calmly, very calmly. None of them, obviously, suspected anything. Once she was in their midst, a thundering detonation shook a whole corner of the city, cutting down the bravos and breaking window panes. Police cars were set ablaze.

The explosion of Ho Thi Ky's mine — an outburst of patriotism, vengeance, unbounded loyalty to the revolution, extraordinary heroism and determination to wipe out the enemy — had foiled a criminal operation against the population.

That explosion by the girl of the Mekong delta strongly inspired her comrades and, mingling with the cries of countrymen engaged in offensives and uprisings, gave a push to the march onwards of the nation.

In a fierce battle

FOUR "MIGS" DOWN FOUR "PHANTOMS"



Viet Nam People's Air Force unit S

IT was noon. The squadron was put on the alert. The pilots raced for their craft and quickly got inside the cockpits. The engines were started rumbling and the craft shook violently. In short order, ground crewmen set to work with great sense of urgency. Comrade Kien lowered the cockpit top and, with his towel, he cleaned up the front glass window. Comrade Cuong removed the red cap from the rocket and patting it affectionately and said: "Try to score a direct hit!"

Word came from the C.P. for the take-off. The squadron leader stood erect, and with a radiant face, spread out his arm in the direction of the runway, signalling the aircraft to leave the parking apron. Crewmen waved their greetings.

Within seconds, the 4 MIGs roared off the runway towards the Northwest. Through the window, Duc saw his comrades keep flying level in close formation. He was filled with satisfaction. From the ground, a familiar voice rasped up information about the enemy movements and gave instructions as to the flight lines. Flying under the guidance of the ground control centre, Duc thought the battle would unfold as planned. The courage and versatility with which the flight would perform its mission was going to decide its outcome of the battle. Bui Thanh felt really excited at the sight of the rolling landscape underneath. The sun was playing on his ship's wings. He scanned the air space in front of him. Suddenly he noticed black specks in the distance. He reported it to the flight commander. Almost at the same time, the whole flight spotted a group of 4 F.4's. Duc sent back a report to the command post then skilfully led his comrades to close in upon the enemy.

The sky over this borderland was bestrewn with white and grey balls of clouds. With the precious experience they had acquired in previous years, our pilots did not lose sight of their targets. All of a sudden, the F.4's split up into pairs. Two of them kept their course steady and the other pair made a wide turn to the right, a routine manœuvre of the adversary when confronted with our airmen. Familiar with the trick, Duc instructed Phu and Thanh to take care of the pair of F.4s on the right-hand side. He and Duy would look after the others.

The whole flight of MIGs zoomed up. Seeing that Thanh was lagging behind, Phu reduced speed for the latter to overtake him so that both could give the enemy a beating together as they had agreed on in the morning.

Meanwhile Duc and Duy went after the 2 leading planes which faded into the clouds. Beneath them, the jungled mountains of the Northwest looked a deep green. Duc led Duy into so close a range to the enemy that Duy let out a cry of joy over the radio:

"Fine! fine! Which one is mine?"

Duc nearly burst into laughter. He composed himself and cracked out an order:

"No. Two gets at the plane to the right. I'll tackle the left plane."

The enemy planes now took evasive actions. Duc and his fellow pilots soon got them into the gun-sight of their planes. At a right moment, they cut loose their missiles which whizzed into the enemy craft. To make sure that the Phantom be grounded on the spot, he fired a second missile. The enemy plane burst into flames and dived earthward. By his side, Duy did the same, sending the other F. 4 down in a jumble of torn and tangled metal. Meanwhile Phu and Thanh kept giving the chase to the 2 remaining F.4's which tried to escape, but it was too late. On the left side, Phu already had zeroed in on his target, as Thanh manoeuvred into position for a deadly shot.

In their fix, the American pilots vainly tried to outmanoeuvre and outrun the MIGs. Two explosions were heard almost at the same time, and both Phu and Thanh fulfilled their pledge, i.e., "to jointly give a sound beating to the enemy planes."

"Look! They are like two blazing torches!"

No mistake, the shout came from Bui Thanh. Flight Commander Duc was sure that Duc and Thanh had hit home. The four MIGs were reassembled into formation and flew back to base under the guidance of the ground control centre.

As they approached the delta plain, the sun shone more brightly still. The four "silver swallows" bearing the marking of the Viet Nam People's Air Force scretched down into the runway to the immense gratification of their entire unit.

o Furious air strikes were carried out on July 8, 1972 by waves of US planes on populous quarters of Hanoi. The capital city's people and armed forces fought back and downed 4 enemy jets, bringing to 301 the total of US aircraft shot down in Hanoi.

o In the tense atmosphere of a confrontation with the US aggressors, the people and armed forces of Hanoi held a ceremony for reception of a message of congratulation from President Ton Duc Thang on their downing of the 300th US plane in Hanoi. Addressing the gathering, Dr Tran Duy Hung, Chairman of Hanoi's Administrative Committee, declared: "The outstanding feat of the Hanoi people and armed forces is an expression of their readiness to face all difficulties and hardships and join efforts with their fellow countrymen and fighters throughout the country in keeping up and stepping up the anti-US national resistance until final victory."

The DRVN in brief

o The personnel of Hanoi postal service have their own slogan: "Our hearts may stop beating, but communications in our country will never be cut off". Day and night they stick to their postal networks, telephone switch-boards, telegraphic sets and show great creativeness and courage, fearless of enemy bombs, determined to keep open communications from the capital city to all localities.

o At the invitation of the Viet Nam Committee of Solidarity with the American people, well-known American film actress Jane Fonda arrived in Hanoi on July 8 for a visit to Viet Nam.

For years, Jane Fonda has been active in the antiwar movement in the United States. She has many times given anti-war performances at US military bases in the United States, the Philippines, Japan.

o The Agricultural Machine Designing Institute under the Ministry of Mechanics and Metallurgy in cooperation with the Ha Tay Mechanized Agricultural Tools Factory, has succeeded in turning out a combined mower-thrasher, 2nd model. This is a small-size machine suitable to rice-fields in both the midlands and the plains. Manned by two persons, it can in 8 hours, mow, thrash and bag rice grown on 2 hectares-10 times speedier than hand work.

o Vinh Phu province has completed its allotment of land for tea-tree planting. Under the new plan, the soil in old tea plantations will be improved, and barren hills also be grown with tea in accordance with modern techniques. In the last Winter-Spring season, thousands of hectares were newly put under tea. By 1975, the tea acreage will reach 20,000 hectares for the whole province.

Youth Shock Brigade No. 25 clearing road to the front.

On Cuba's National Insurrection Day

LONG LIVE THE JULY 26 SPIRIT!

THE brotherly Cuban people are enthusiastically preparing to celebrate historic July 26, the revolutionary militancy of which has been constantly kept alive on the small heroic island.

Truly, if taking January 1st, 1959 as one of Cuba's milestone, prior to this, the July 26 spirit after the trying attack on Moncada Fortress, has been unceasingly brought into full play and has brought to the Cuban people what is most precious, incomparable and obtainable only with blood, with man's life, that is independence and freedom.

And ever since, educated and trained by the Cuban Communist Party, Government, and their leader Fidel Castro who has kindled the undying Moncada spirit, the entire Cuban people have remained constantly true to the July 26 spirit in all their activities, in the defence and consolidation of their national independence as well as in the building of their country into a prosperous one. It was precisely thanks to it that Cuba succeeded in frustrating every enemy scheme, overcoming all difficulties and obstacles, quickly wiping out the vestiges and aftermaths left by the old society, bravely embarking on the conquest of nature, science and technology, turning in a short period of time a patch of land kept for generations in poverty and backwardness into a strong socialist country in the Western Hemisphere, under the very nose of North American imperialism — enemy of freedom, justice and social progress. This achievement of the Cuban people has "shaken North American imperialism's rule" and given added lustre to Cuba's example for the world national liberation movement. For other Latin American countries, the glowing light emitted by the tiny island has become ever more brilliant.

Equipped with the immortal July 26 spirit, Cuba has nurtured not the least illusion about the US imperialists. The Cubans are more aware than anyone else that the US imperialists will never voluntarily change their nature. Their "generation of peace," "era of negotiations" are but honeyed words. We cannot expect from them any favour. The only way to deal with them is to attack them, to attack them always. In the Cuban people's glorious history, since their successful revolution, on each acre of land, each exploit has been an eloquent proof of revolutionary militancy: in foiling the US imperialists and their agents' operation in Hiron; in frustrating hundreds of their predatory, provocative and subversive activities, in forcing them to return kidnapped Cuban fishermen; in thwarting their schemed economic blockade; in nipping their plots in the bud; in seizing vessels disguised as merchant ships for *CIA* spying activities.

Over the past many years, Cuba has done its bit in the fight against imperialism, new and old colonialism headed by the US imperialists and for national liberation in Asia, Africa and Latin America. This also testifes to the July 26 spirit. Only by jointly attacking the imperialists and their flunkeys everywhere, by uniting in the fight and by repelling them step by step and overthrowing them group after group, thereby gradually weakening them till their complete destruction can national independence be really preserved and world peace really maintained.

This position of the Cuban people has been translated into deeds. Most recently, in the African and Eastern European tour of a Cuban Communist Party and Government Delegation headed by him, Premier Fidel Castro again pointed out: "Imperialism has perpetrated all kinds of crimes, even those unknown in the past. Today it has committed monstrous and even worse offences: the Palestinians have been chased out of their land and homes; neo-colonialism rules over a major part of Africa; a vast portion of territory belonging to Arab countries in the Middle-East is occupied in virtue of rights the conquerors have arrogated to themselves. In Indochina, Yankee imperialism has deployed en masse its powerful squadrons, aircraft-carriers and bombers against the heroic people of Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia. In Latin America, US imperalism, with the help of oligarchists and reactionaries ready to betray their Fatherland, has imposed its domination on a major part of fraternal countries in the continent... (Speech in Algiers on May 9, 1972). And once again, Cuba's unswerving stance has been reiterated by the Cuban Premier before a large crowd of foreign journalists and correspondents in Bulgaria: "We have nothing to discuss with Nixon. It is he who must act, renounce his role as an international gendarme, cease his aggression against, and intervention in, the Latin American countries, end the war in Viet Nam and the blockade of Cuba, withdraw its naval base from our territory, and all this unconditionally. We have nothing to discuss with Nixon."

In the trip, Premier Fidel Castro most warmly expressed the Cuban people's profound sympathy for the Vietnamese. Upholding the July 26 spirit, anywhere he went, the Cuban Premier referred to Viet Nam, the most burning question of our era, strongly condemned the US imperialists' dangerous war escalation in Viet Nam, and called on all men of conscience in the world to act to stay this brutal imperialists' bloody hands.

The South Vietnamese are deeply moved by, and will remember for ever, the heartfelt words of the Cuban people and land for having given birth and brought up such a talented man.

On the Cuban people's glorious anniversary, they sincerely hope that the fraternal Cuban people will further promote the July 26 spirit and record still greater successes in all fields. May the Viet Nam-Cuba militant solidarity last for ever.

DAI LIEN

Here and there...

A Pachyderm

THE Concise Oxford Dictionary traces the origin of the word to the Greek *Pakhus* (thick) and *dermamatos* (skin) and gives this definition: "Thick-skinned quadruped, etc."

In Viet Nam our good old grannies will lash out at someone who is lost to all sense of dignity and shame for one's lies and misdeeds in these terms: "What a thick face!". The translation is literal, but it says what it means to say.

All this was called to my mind when I read this notice in a daily:

"American sources said that during his June 29 press conference where he again indulged in his habitual sabre-rattling and pi jaw, some correspondents fired questions at Mr Nixon. They were anxious to know the reasons why the US President who professed a desire to end the Viet Nam war had stepped up to an unprecedented degree of violence US air strikes against Viet Nam, and sent contingents of GI's recently pulled out from South Viet Nam to Thailand or aircraft carriers off the Tonking Gulf for the destruction of Viet Nam.

"In the same meeting, an American newspaperman drew Mr Nixon's attention to the fact that the charges of US wanton strikes on civilian targets in North Viet Nam, more particularly on her dykes and dams, obstinately denied by him, came not only from the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam but also from many foreign eye-witnesses including the *AFP* Hanoi correspondent and the Swedish Ambassador in Hanoi."

The report did not mention the US Chief Executive's reaction to the barrage of questions. But I could see in my mind's eye the kind of face he put on then. He might have given an evasive answer, or flashed a wry smile. Anyhow his mien must have been reminiscent of the invective mentioned above of the old Vietnamese ladies, which is very similar in its meaning to the word *pachyderm*. I wonder whether one can list Mr Nixon in this category of mammalians. Woudn't it be an insult to our good elephants, hippotamuses and rhinoceroses.

Bombs for bomb-throwers

THE following events are still fresh in every one's mind:

On May 20 and 21, 1972 Nixon was greeted in Austria by mass demonstrations during which the son of the host country's Prime Minister chanted: "Nixon, murderer!"

On the night of May 30-31, 1972 a number of bombs exploded in Teheran (Iran). They were meant for Nixon.

The US Embassy in Oslo (Norway) was put "on the alert" on May 29, 1972 following a phone call warning it of an eventual bomb explosion within its compounds.

Mr Rogers, the US Secretary of State, received a smoke bomb as he was coming out of his hotel in P. (Austria, again!)

Two possible inferences from all those incidents:

First: US-made bombs not only are let off in Viet Nam, and not with impunity at that. Bombs made by other countries have exploded or threatened to explode on the path of the throwers of bombs in Viet Nam.

Second: Nixon and Co have so fair had close shaves. But they must beware because as two Vietnamese sayings go: "Who lives by some trade shall die by it" and "he who roams at night shall run into ghosts", or in other words "he who lives by the sword shall perish by the sword."

A touch of Viet Nam realism

ANOTHER story of bombs.

A friend of mine, a North Vietnamese writer journalist for whose opinion on the US massive bombings in Nixon's fresh escalation I was asking, answered in a very "Asian" way with the following verses of his composition:

A man-hole deep enough
To cover in case of need, one's head in a sitting posture,
Whose lid can serve the purpose of a writing table, when one stands up
To complete a sentence inveighing against the enemy.
Infuriated Dick drops his bombs
Which boom and boom round the clock.
My brothers man guns and I my pen
As deadly as a sharp weapon.
You squirm and squirm in vain
And your bombs scatter. Not a hair of my goatee is harmed.
Aiming straight at your heart, I swing my pen into action.
Let's see how much longer your can wriggle?

HUONG NAM

The cause of Egypt's victory

THE Arab Republic of Egypt will turn twenty on the 23rd of this month. To the whole world, the Egyptian people's liberation from the rule of British colonialism and domestic feudalism twenty years ago came as a heavy blow to the colonial system of world imperialism. This victory has helped accelerate the collapse of imperialism and colonialism, which began with World War II. The national liberation revolution in Egypt, indeed, has had a considerable effect on the situation in the Middle East, and the encouragement it has given to the world movement of national liberation is quite significant. Therefore, it is not surprising that imperialism has resorted to every means — bribery, threat, subversion and downright aggression — to rob the Egyptians of the gains of their revolution.

The ARE, however, has emerged victorious from these difficult times. She is as firm as ever, and keeps developing, continuing to play in a dignified manner her role in the common struggle of the Arab nations and the world peoples as a whole against imperialism and colonialism and neo-colonialism whose ringleader is US imperialism, the most ferocious imperialist power in the present-day world.

The path the ARE has travelled in the last twenty years has not been uneventful, but full of promises, and in line with the general trend of history. What characterizes this journey is a grim opposition to imperialism and colonialism, and a great determination to defend and consolidate independence. The drastic decision taken by the late President Nasser to nationalize the Suez Canal, later on followed by many other heroic deeds of other Third World nations against imperialism, will be remembered for ever. Now, in face of the savage aggression committed by the Israeli reactionaries, henchmen of the US, against Egypt and other Arab nations, including the Arab Republic of Palestine, the Egyptian people are striving even more strenuously to build their forces in a strong resolve to punish the enemy severely. The ARE did not think twice before severing diplomatic relations with imperialism, and has been turning to the powerful socialist camp for assistance to increase her defence potential and carry out national construction. All the honeyed words of the United States have only aroused her suspicion and drawn her attention to the building of Arab solidarity to counter imperialism's classical "divide and rule" policy and its scheme to pit Arabs against Arabs. And, disregarding the threats of the Israeli aggressors, who are equipped and fostered by US imperialism into a guardian of its interests in the Middle East, the ARE remains firm in her resolve to join the other Arab nations to wrest back, at any cost, the Arab territories that have been occupied illegally by Israel, and to come to the aid of the Palestinians in their self-liberation effort.

The ARE firm anti-imperialist stand is also illustrated by her active support for the national liberation movements in Asia, Africa and Latin America. To the South Vietnamese people's resistance against US aggression and for national salvation in particular, the Arab Socialist Union and the Government and people of the ARE have given their warmest sympathy and support. They have backed all policies of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, and is ready to do their best to help the South Vietnamese people accomplish their historic mission.

It is this resolute position, illustrated by so many concrete deeds that has enhanced the image of the ARE in the international arena, helped her make so much progress in the recent period.

There is no denying that the road ahead of her is still rough. Imperialism has not given up its scheme to deny the Egyptian people of the fruits of their revolution and the Israeli aggressors are as bellicose and obstinate as ever. But, it is a certainty that the Egyptian people enlightened by their past experience, unshakable in their anti-imperialist stance and in unswerving solidarity with the other Arab nations and progressive mankind, will get over all obstacles and advance toward a splendid future.

DINH BA

Viet vets demonstrate against war

in brief * in brief

U.S.A.:

For three consecutive days beginning July 10, large numbers of antiwar Americans marched on the Democratic Party Convention site in Miami Beach, singing antiwar songs.

On the night of July 11, more than 3,000 people including many students and Viet Nam veterans paraded in front of the convention hall of the Democratic Party in a similar protest action.

On July 12, more than 200 war dissenters carrying flags of the Republic of South Viet Nam staged an hour-long parade in front of the hotel of Senator McGovern during the Democratic Party Convention, to show their solidarity with the South Vietnamese.

West Germany:

During recent days, ebullient demonstrations against the US aggression in Viet Nam and Indochina have broken out in many cities including Hamburg, Kiel, Bremen and Manheim. In Luebeck, hundreds of persons signed a petition urging the US to withdraw immediately all US forces from South Viet Nam. In Munich, the demonstrators in front of the US Information office stressed that to safeguard peace it was imperative to wage a powerful struggle against the war of aggression that the US ruling circles were pursuing in Viet Nam.

Great Britain:

The 12th week of the stand-in of many people and various progressive organizations in front of the US Embassy in London was marked by an action of more than 80 representatives of Camden population on US Independence Day (July 4). Apart from the slogans protesting US frantic war acts in Viet Nam, the marchers also carried a big banner with inscriptions in Vietnamese and English quoting the September 2 Declaration of Independence of Viet Nam which begins with a sentence taken from the 1776 Declaration of Independence of the United States. The demonstrators handed to the US Embassy a petition urging the US government to end immediately the genocidal war in Viet Nam, stop its aggression and get down to serious talks at the Paris Conference on Viet Nam on the basis of the 7-point proposal of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam.

Poland:

At a Polish-Viet Nam get-together on July 6, Witold Jarosinski, Secretary General of the Polish National Unity Front, handed to the Vietnamese representatives in Poland three million "zloti" which the Polish people had collected for their fighting Vietnamese brothers.

Chile:

In the early days of July, Chileans of all strata held many meetings and organized many days of voluntary work or talks on Viet Nam for the Vietnamese resistance against US aggression. Meetings in solidarity with Viet Nam were called at the Valparaiso ship-yard, the Company for the Development of Production (CORFO), the MADECO copper factory, etc.

The July 6 meeting of the wooden furniture workers of the Forestry Service in Reina decided to contribute one day's pay to the Support Viet Nam fund. Earlier, the workers at the VOLCAN building material factory had convened a meeting at which 17,000 escuados were collected for Viet Nam.

Norway:

On the evening of July 4, nearly 600 people demonstrated in front of the US Embassy in Oslo against US intensification of its aggression in Viet Nam. Their threatening mood frightened the Embassy people and forced them to take down the American flag hoisted on the occasion of US Independence Day. A declaration adopted at the rally said: "The history of struggle of the Vietnamese people has demonstrated that no scheme of the aggressors can stave off their failure. The Vietnamese people will certainly win."

West Berlin:

A march took place on July 8 in this part of the German capital. The demonstrators marched through the main thoroughfares, carrying many banners reading: "Victory belongs to the people's war", "Long live the SVN NFL!" This was the third demonstration in a week against the US aggression in Viet Nam.

SOUTH VIET NAM — CENTRAL ORGAN OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION